

Total aluminum production (primary and secondary) may have been as high as 900,000 metric tons in 1957, and there is little question but that aluminum output in the Bloc will continue to increase. The most significant increases in aluminum production are planned for the USSR and for Communist China.

2. Available intelligence information on Sino-Soviet Bloc consumption of aluminum and aluminum alloys is not sufficiently precise and detailed to permit the establishment of a use pattern. It can be stated, however, that except for use in aircraft, rocket, and missile production and in the manufacture of pots and pans, there is little to indicate that Bloc utilization of this product would be analogous to that of the Free World. On the contrary, limited observations suggest a pattern significantly different from that of the Free World.

3. There is no reason to believe that the Sino-Soviet Bloc suffers from any shortage of aluminum metal or alloys. It has been a net exporter of aluminum since 1955, when net exports were about 12,000 tons. In 1956, net exports reached about 25,000 tons, and may have been even greater. (For example, one unconfirmed statement in a Soviet publication claimed that 80,000 tons of aluminum were shipped to the West in 1956.) (It is probable that 1957 Bloc exports of aluminum to free world countries will exceed those of 1956. In the first eleven months of 1957, for example, the Bloc shipped more than 15,000 tons of aluminum to Great Britain, as compared with only 921 tons shipped during the same period in 1956.) The USSR accounted for the largest part of Bloc exports to the Free World, providing approximately 60 per cent of net exports in both 1955 and 1956.

NET EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM  
FROM THE SINO-SOVIET BLOC TO THE FREE WORLD

(In metric tons)

<u>Area</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
USSR	7,200	14,800
Czechoslovakia	1,600	4,800
Hungary	2,700	3,400
Poland	500	1,600
<del>Other Eastern Europe</del>	<del>Neg.</del>	<del>400</del>
China	Neg.	Neg.
Total Bloc	12,000	24,200
	11,800	25,300

(\* The New York Times (14 March 1958) reported that the 1957 rate of aluminum shipments from the USSR to the UK appears to have continued through January 1958. The Times also stated that the USSR is offering aluminum at £ 15 a ton less than the Aluminum Company of Canada price of £ 197 per ton.)

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